

Social Media & Internet Policy

Wimbledon Cricket Club have adopted the policy of the ECB and Child Protection in Sport Unit. This policy provides guidance on how Wimbledon Cricket Club (the Club) uses the internet and social media, and the procedures for doing so. It also outlines how we expect members and volunteers, children or young people who are members of the cricket club to behave online.

The aims of our online safety policy are

To protect all children and young people involved with the club and who make use of technology (such as mobile phones, games consoles and the internet) while in our care

To provide members and volunteers with policy and procedure information regarding online safety and inform them how to respond to incidents

To ensure the club is operating in line with our values and within the law regarding how we behave online

As part of using the internet and social media, the club will

Understand the safety aspects – including what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for members and children – when using websites, social media, apps and other forms of digital communication

Be aware that it doesn't matter what device is being used for digital interaction, but that the same safety aspects apply whether it is a computer, mobile phone or game console

When using social media platforms (including Spond, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), ensure that we adhere to relevant legislation and good practice guidelines

Regularly review existing safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure that online safeguarding issues are fully integrated, including:

- making sure concerns of abuse or disclosures that take place online are written into our reporting procedures

- incorporating online bullying (cyberbullying) in our anti-bullying policy

- provide training for the person responsible for managing the club's online presence

Managing our online presence

Our online presence through our website or social media platforms will adhere to the following guidelines:

- All social media accounts will be password -protected

- The account will be monitored by a designated person(s), who will have been appointed by the club committee

- The designated person managing our online presence will seek advice from our designated safeguarding person to advise on safeguarding requirements

- Inappropriate posts by children or members will be removed and informing anyone who may be affected (as well as the parents of any children involved)

- Use Spond as the sole mechanism for Training, Match and Event management so that only invited club members can see their content



Identifying details such as a child's home address, school name or telephone number shouldn't be posted on social media platforms

Any posts or correspondence will be consistent with our aims

Parental permission will need to be given for photographs or videos of their child to be posted on social media

All of our accounts and email addresses will be appropriate and fit for purpose

What we expect of members and volunteers

All Members should be aware of this policy and behave in accordance with it

Members should seek advice of the designated safeguarding person if they have any concerns about the use of the internet or social media

Adult members should not 'friend' or 'follow' children or young people from personal accounts on social media

All Social Media posts should be appropriate for all ages.

All communication with Junior Members should be carried out through Spond, with the built in safeguarding mechanism of including the Junior's Guardians into the communication as standard.

Members should avoid communicating with children or young people via Spond outside appropriate hours

Any disclosures of abuse reported through social media should be dealt with in the same way as a face-to-face disclosure, according to our reporting procedures

All Members must not send aggressive or otherwise deemed intimidating messages to anyone, or post pictures that may be offensive, obscene, indecent or menacing.

What we expect of children and young people

Children should be aware of this online safety policy and agree to its terms

We expect children and young people's behaviour online to be consistent with the guidelines

Using mobile phones or other digital technology to communicate

When using mobile phones (or other devices) to communicate by voice, video or text (including texting, email and instant messaging), we'll take the following precautions to ensure young people's safety:

Members will avoid having children's or young people's personal mobile numbers and will instead seek contact through Spond, a parent or guardian

Spond Groups will be the main mechanism for communicating information – such as reminding children or young people about upcoming events, which kit to bring or practice timings – and not to engage in conversation

If a young person misinterprets such communication and tries to engage a member in conversation, the member will take the following steps:

1. end the conversation or stop replying
2. suggest discussing the subject further at the next practice or event



If concerned about the child or young person, provide contact details for the Safeguarding Officer or appropriate agencies

Using mobile phones during sports activities

So that all children can enjoy and actively take part in sports activities, we discourage the use of mobile phones during such activities. As part of this policy we will:

Make children aware of how and who to contact if there is an emergency or a change to previously agreed arrangements with the Club

Inform parents of appropriate times they can contact children who are away on trips and discourage them from attempting contact outside of these times

Advise parents that it may not be possible to contact children during activities and provide a contact within the club who will be reachable should there be an emergency

Explain to young people how using mobile phones during activities has an impact on their safe awareness of their environment, and their level of participation and achievement

As a club, we commit to implementing this policy and addressing any concerns quickly and within these guidelines.